

the U.S. Small Business Administration in Washington, D.C., from May 31 to June 6.

Born in Chilton County in 1941, Jimmy Easterling started Wayne Industries, Inc. in his garage with \$500. Since then, he has turned his company into one of the largest employers in the county.

Wayne Industries manufactures portable, modular and corporate signs for such companies as Whirlpool, DuPont, General Motors, Suzuki and Chester's Chicken. The company also manufactures custom signs for mom-pop businesses across the nation. Wayne Industries' customer base has spread from the Southeast to include the entire United States, Canada, England, Germany and Mexico.

Mr. Speaker, Jimmy Easterling's success story is a classic example of the American dream. Here is an individual, who had an idea and turned it into a reality.

While Jimmy has been a major contributor to the economic prosperity of Chilton County, his service to his friends and community did not stop there. After graduating from Chilton County High School, Jimmy enlisted in the Alabama National Guard. Though he began his military career as a private, Jimmy retired thirty-five years later as a full colonel. During his tenure in the military, he was part of the elite Special Forces Green Berets, and received numerous awards and decorations for outstanding service and duty.

Throughout it all, Mr. Speaker, Jimmy has remained a devoted husband and father. His commitment to his family, Wayne Industries and his surrounding community is an example to all of us. I would ask that my fellow colleagues join me today in recognizing this man, and congratulating him on this award, which he so justly deserves.

SALUTE TO COL. JERRY E.
KNOTTS, USAF (RET.)

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, each year the Conejo Valley, California, Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars presents its Red, White and Blue Ball to perpetuate the spirit of patriotism. At the Ball, each year an individual is honored who has demonstrated exceptional patriotism and who has made significant contributions to the community. This year, on June 6, 1998, an outstanding individual, Colonel Jerry E. Knotts, USAF (Retired) will be presented with a special Patrick Henry Medalion as the "Patriotic Citizen of the Year."

I am pleased to call Colonel Knotts a friend. Jerry retired from the Air Force with 24 years of service. His last assignment was as commander of the Washington Area Contracting Center at Andrews Air Force Base. He was responsible for Air Force procurement throughout the Nation's Capital, and a region from the Azores to Saint Louis. His responsibilities included the White House and the Presidential VIP aircraft fleet.

As part of the Defense Logistics Agency, Jerry previously oversaw production of aircraft gas turbine engines, diesel engines, and ar-

mored vehicle transmissions at Detroit Diesel Allison of Indianapolis, Indiana. His career also included fourteen years in the Big Safari special reconnaissance program at General Dynamics in Fort Worth, Texas; E-Systems in Greenville, Texas; and Lockheed Aircraft Services in Ontario, California. Jerry was responsible for creating and flight testing a number of specially configured aircraft, including the Combat Sent, Combat Talon, Cobra Ball, Rivet Joint and many others. During 1968, he completed 112 missions over North Vietnam in an F-105 Wild Weasel.

For his outstanding service to our nation, Jerry received the Legion of Merit, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Meritorious Service Medal with two oak leaf clusters, the Air Medal with 13 oak leaf clusters, and the Air Force Commendation Medal.

Today, Jerry is manager of financial programs for the California Manufacturing Technology Center and serves as a Ventura County Airport Commissioner. He and his wife, Mary, and daughter, Stephanie, have been residents of Thousand Oaks since 1984. Since his retirement from the Air Force, Jerry has devoted thousands of hours to a multitude of charitable organizations. He currently is chairman and president of the Thousand Oaks Youth Leadership Conference, the Westlake Village Cultural Foundation, and the Stagecoach Inn Museum Foundation, which he created.

He also has been active in the leadership of the Community Leaders Club, the Conejo Symphony, the Conejo Valley Historical Society, the Conejo Valley Genealogical Society, the Conejo Futures Foundation and several fraternal organizations. For the past 15 years, Jerry has been responsible for the majority of the patriotic ceremonies held in the Conejo Valley. He is the past commander of Conejo Valley Chapter of the Military Order of the World Wars and has served as master of ceremonies for the organization's Red, White and Blue Ball for 11 years.

For his remarkable public service, Jerry has received numerous awards. In 1996 he was honored by the Conejo Valley Historical Society. That same year, Jerry and his wife, Mary, both received the William E. Hamm Award from the California Lutheran University Community Leaders Club. Jerry also has been honored for his community service by having a seat designated in his name in the Thousand Oaks Civic Center Forum Theater. He previously received the Outstanding Service Award and the Silver Patrick Henry Medal from the Military Order of the World Wars.

Mr. Speaker, my friend Colonel Jerry Knotts exemplifies the best spirit of patriotism and service to our Nation and his community. I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating him on being named the Patriotic Citizen of the Year and for being selected to receive the Patrick Henry Medallion.

TRIBUTE TO H. LEE HALTERMAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 1998

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to bring to the attention of my colleagues the excep-

tional work of an exceptional person, my former colleague and close friend Lee Halterman, on the occasion of the celebration of his retirement from Capitol Hill.

H. Lee Halterman worked for my predecessor, the Honorable Ronald V. Dellums, for 27 years. During that time, Lee served Ron and the constituents of the then 7th, then 8th, now 9th Congressional District of California in a wide variety of capacities. Lee began as a teenage volunteer, too young to vote, but not so young that he couldn't run a successful campaign in the Berkeley area of the District. While attending the University of California at Berkeley, Lee was the Berkeley District Office Director and after graduation was able to work full time during the day while attending Bolt Hall School of Law in the evenings.

In 1978, Lee took a leave of absence to accept the prestigious position of legal officer at the International Commission of Jurists in Geneva, Switzerland. Lee returned to the United States to work in the Dellums Berkeley office, and then the Oakland office as District Counsel and co-District Director.

In 1993, when Mr. Dellums became chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, Lee commuted regularly between the Congressional District and Washington to serve both as the Counsel to the House Armed Services Committee and as General Counsel to Representative Dellums. At the same time, Lee directed the policy staff which developed the Committee's agenda and advised the Chairman on military and foreign diplomatic issues of the day.

The list of positions held by Lee tells only part of the story. His work is well known among local and national progressive political activists, academics, and policymakers. The 1983 book, *Defense Sense: The Search for a Rational Military Policy*, which was written by Ron Dellums with Lee Halterman and the late Max Miller, serves even today as a primer for those who seek a constructive alternative approach to the formation of the nation's foreign and military policies. Lee has demonstrated the ability to use his keen native intelligence, considerable political acumen, insight, wit and humor, to bring together the most disparate parties and work out solutions to the most intractable problems.

As a result, Lee is accepted and respected by progressives and conservatives, civilians and General-grade officers, public and private officials alike. His counsel and assistance on complex problems is not only welcomed but sought. During his tenure on Capitol Hill, he was generous with his talents, not only with the House Armed Services Committee and Representative Dellums' office, but with the House Leadership and other Committees as well.

Lee Halterman has been a trusted advisor, skillful manager, and extraordinary writer, a political observer, a legislative strategist, and many other things, but perhaps most of all Lee has been a true and gentle friend to so many of those he has worked with, and who have come to know him over all of these years. I know I speak for all of them when I wish him well in all of his future endeavors.